

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 08194 231105Z

46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03 H-02 SS-15 NSC-05

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 /048 W

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R 231221Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9373

INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 8194

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, PFOR, IN

SUBJECT: HARCOS/FLETCHER

1. CONGEN CALCUTTA INFORMS US THAT HARCOS/FLETCHER TOLD THE CONSUL VISITING THEM AT THE END OF LAST WEEK THEY STILL INTENDED TO GO ON A HUNGER STRIKE AT AN UNSPECIFIED DATE. THEY INQUIRED ABOUT THE PROGRESS OF THE AID APPROPRIATION BILL IN CONGRESS. THE CONSUL SAID HE HAD NO INFORMATION ABOUT THIS. CONGEN COMMENTS TO EMBASSY THAT THEY BELIEVE HARCOS/FLETCHER ARE CONSIDERING TIMING THEIR HUNGER STRIKE IN AN EFFORT TO CREATE ADVERSE PUBLICITY IN THE US FOR THE GOI WHICH MIGHT ADVERSELY AFFECT AID LEGISLATION RELATING TO INDIA.

2. COMMENT: WE HAVE THUS FAR GOTTEN NO RESPONSE TO CHARGE'S JUNE 5 LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARY PN DHAR ON THIS CASE (NEW DELHI 7548). THE PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT HAS HAD A BUSY TWO WEEKS SINCE THE ALLAHABAD COURT DECISION AND WE ARE NOT GREATLY SURPRISED IF THE HARCOS/FLETCHER FOCUS HAS SLIPPED TO THE BACKGROUND. THIS MAY BE ONE OF THE REASONS THE PROSECUTION IN CALCUTTA ASKED FOR A TWO-WEEK STAY FROM THE JUNE 17 DATE THE TRIAL WAS TO RECOMMENCE. WE WILL TRY TO LEARN MORE FROM HAIDER IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT TOWARD THE END OF THE COMING WEEK.
SCHNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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